

**CLEARCorps/Detroit**

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March 8, 2010

The Honorable Rebekah Warren, Chair  
House Great Lakes and Environmental Committee  
987 Anderson House Office Building  
PO Box 30014  
Lansing MI 48909-7514

Dear Chairwoman Warren and members of the House Great Lakes and Environment Committee,

I am the Executive Director of CLEARCorps/Detroit, an organization dedicated to protecting children in Detroit from lead poisoning. We are writing to support House Bill 5931 allowing Michigan to implement and manage the EPA Renovation, Repair and Painting Rule (40 CFR 745). This complex rule will require ongoing stakeholder participation and commitment that can only be effective at the local level. The Michigan Department of Community Health has an excellent track record at engaging stakeholders so that program rules are developed with the input from those impacted by this law thus making for a more effective program. Furthermore, adequate enforcement of this law is important to insure the implementation of the law. This enforcement can only be achieved at the local level.

Lead paint causes permanent brain damage to children under six. In fact, children that have been lead poisoned are 7 times more likely to drop out of school and much more likely to become youthful offenders. While the federal rule is an important step, local participation and enforcement is critical in protecting children during home repairs and renovations. We ask that you support House Bill 5931 so that we can best keep Michigan's children safe from lead poisoning. Thank you for your support of this important issue.

Sincerely,

Mary Sue Schottenfels  
Executive Director  
CLEARCorps/Detroit